

Mr. Leggett's proposal would place undue hardship on the manufacturers and the amateur radio community. His proposal would drive manufacturers from the market thereby limiting available state of the art equipment and increasing the cost of equipment to amateurs thus reducing the amateur ranks.

The stated goal of field repair is admirable however it is an unrealistic goal. It assumes that the part or parts required for the repair would be available in the field for the repair to be successful. This is highly unlikely due to the varied part types, proprietary ICs and circuit board designs from different manufacturers that comprise today's equipment. How often would the part(s) be on hand? Would the equipment be tested and repaired before the failure? Will an amateur be expected to have a complete set of spare parts for his rigs?

We practice our emergency operating skills during field day, skywarn, local emergency practice nets, public service events, and our own personal amateur activities. The best insurance for equipment failure is redundancy accomplished by having as many participants as possible so that an equipment failure is quickly overcome by having another similar piece of equipment available or a reassignment of current resources.

Amateurs have responded to many disasters in the past and improvised communications after hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, and recently a terrorist attack. Equipment failure did not prevent them from carrying out their mission.

I am strongly opposed to Mr. Leggett's petition and respectfully ask that it be dismissed.